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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Juergen Hofmann)

Serial No.: 10,535,506)

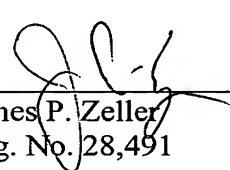
Filed: May 18, 2005)

For: Systems and Method for the
Automatic Generation of Printable
Files from Data)

Group Art Unit: 2854)

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June 12, 2006


James P. Zeller
Reg. No. 28,491

**TRANSLATION OF INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY TRANSLATION**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is an English translation of the international preliminary report on
patentability.

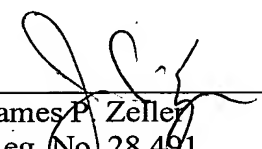
Entry and consideration of the submitted document are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP

June 12, 2006

By:


James P. Zeller
Reg. No. 28,491
Attorneys for Applicants
6300 Sears Tower
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357
(312) 474-6300

PCT/DE2003/003789



Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference DPA5228-PTWO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/DE2003/003789	International filing date (day/month/year) 14 November 2003 (14.11.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 19 November 2002 (19.11.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F 3/12		
Applicant DEUTSCHE POST AG		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 6 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 17 June 2004 (17.06.2004)	Date of completion of this report 03 March 2006 (03.03.2006)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DE2003/003789

1. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.):

- ☒ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description, pages 1-4,6-59, as originally filed,
pages _____, filed with the demand,
pages 5,5a, filed with the letter of 16 June 2005. (16.06.2005.),
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the claims, Nos. 1-4, as originally filed,
Nos. _____, as amended under Article 19,
Nos. _____, filed with the demand,
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____,
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the drawings, sheets/fig 1/6-6/6, as originally filed,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the demand,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DE2003/003789

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	_____	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	_____	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	_____	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

2. Citations and explanations

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DE 03/03789

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-4	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-4	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-4	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: WO 01/61466 A (GOAMERICA INC)

23 August 2001 (2001-08-23)

D2: WO 02/21293 A (US POSTAL SERVICE; GARVEY LEE B
(US); PLUNKETT MICHAEL K (US); TACKES)

14 March 2002 (2002-03-14).

1. Document D2 is considered to be the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1. Said document discloses a system (D2, "service provider 1030") for generating print jobs. The service provider receives its jobs directly and interactively from the user.

The system defined in claim 1 differs from said service provider in that, inter alia, it requests and receives its data from a database via a server, a special communication protocol being used for the connection between the means for generating print jobs and the server and also between the server and the database. In this way, the problem of selecting the correct print processing component is solved by

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the user or the "service provider". In particular, there is no longer any need for the user and service provider to understand how the print processing components operate in order to be able to select a print processing component that is compatible with the print job.

Document D1 also discloses a system in which data that require further processing are requested from a database. However, by contrast with claim 1, said data are not printing data but "metadata" which have to be gathered using an application program with a master document. Since it is not the metadata from the database but the gathered data that can be processed by a print job generating means, the metadata do not correspond to the data that, according to claim 1, are stored in the database. Moreover, the system known from D1 has access to a list of the jobs outstanding. By contrast, the system defined in claim 1 contains no information about current jobs but requests this information from the database.

Thus, the use of the concept known from D1 in the system known from D2 in order to execute print jobs with the aid of a database would not lead to the present invention.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel and inventive and said claim satisfies the requirements of PCT Article 33.

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

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2. The method defined in claim 2 for the automated generation of printable files corresponds to the system defined in claim 1.

Said claim and dependent claims 2 to 4 therefore likewise satisfy the requirements of PCT Article 33.

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